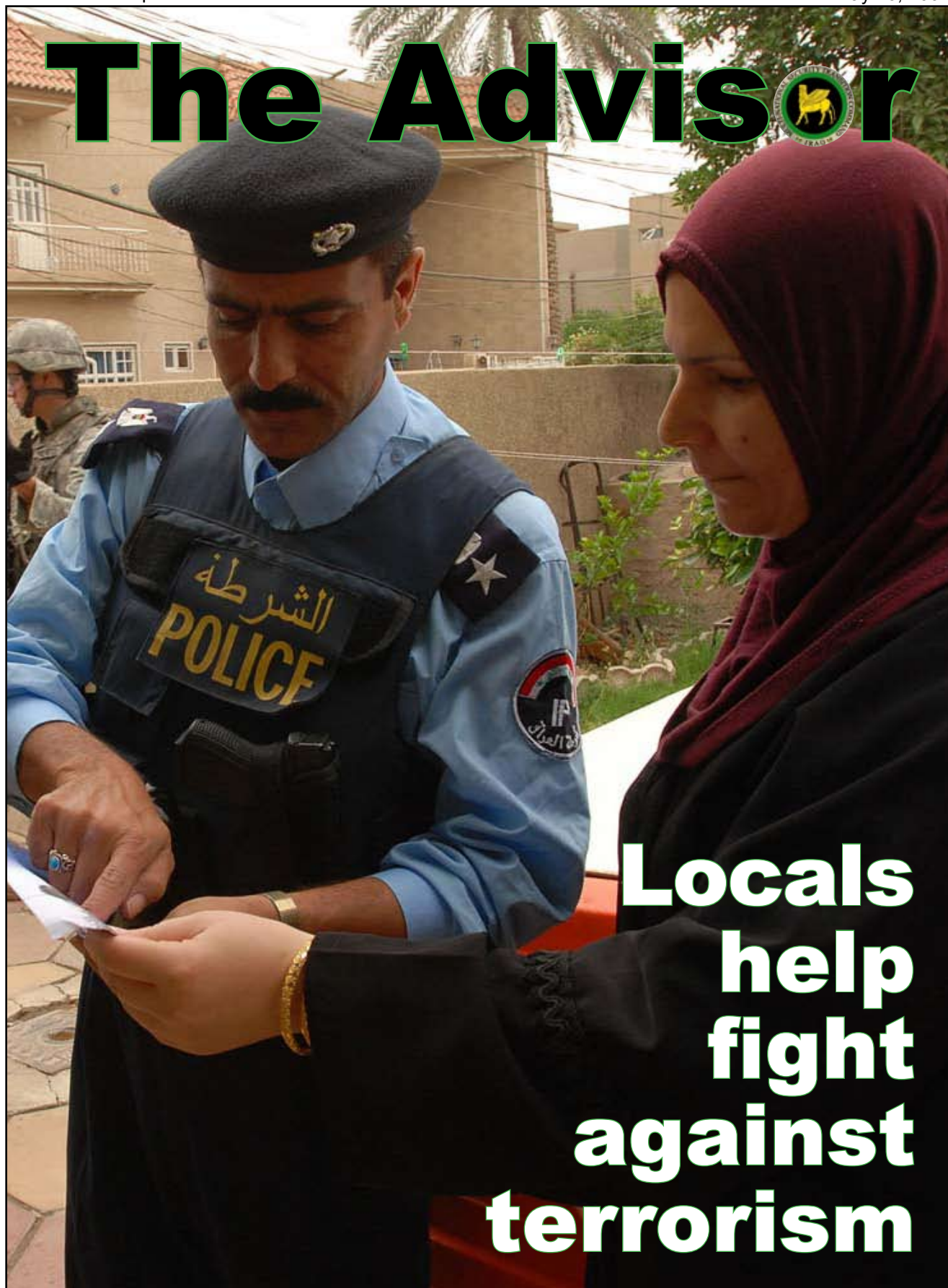


The Advisor



**Locals
help
fight
against
terrorism**

THE ADVISOR

Volume 4



Issue 21

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The faces of Iraqi soldiers and police have been altered to protect their identities.

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ON THE COVER

Lt. Col. Ahmed Abdullah, the local police commander, asks an Iraqi woman some questions during a joint patrol in Suleikh, the eastern neighborhood of Baghdad May 18.

Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Mike Pryor



U.S. Army photo

Mortar rounds, anti-tank mines, grenades and ammunition found in the neighborhoods were stock-piled by district residents to rid Eastern Baghdad streets of dangerous munitions. The cache was found by Soldiers while conducting a security patrol of the area.

Petreaus calls on Iraqis to reject violence, take action

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The top military commander in Iraq has urged people there to support their country and government and reject violence and sectarianism.

“This is a pivotal time, and inaction may be tantamount to failure,” U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander of Multi-National Force - Iraq, wrote in a letter dated May 16.

In the open letter to the Iraqi people, Petraeus urged the Iraqi people to take “an active role in the rebirth of your nation.”

He said that Coalition forces, along with Iraqi Security Forces, are working to rid the country of extremists of all sects. The letter went out to all television, radio and print outlets in the country, officials said.

The letter comes as the U.S. military surge into Iraq continues. By the beginning of June, the additional 21,500 U.S. combat personnel in five brigade combat teams will be in place. The Coalition forces work closely with more than 348,000 trained and equipped members of the Iraqi Security Forces.

But even with this force, the Iraqi government and the Coalition need the help of the people. “We need your help

“Deny the enemy shelter; report any information you may have regarding his whereabouts; and be proud of and support your nation’s security forces.”

U.S. Army Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander of Multi-National Force - Iraq

if we are going to quell the violence,” Petraeus said. “Deny the enemy shelter; report any information you may have regarding his whereabouts; and be proud of and support your nation’s security forces.”

He asked the Iraqi people to understand that restrictions on movement are designed to make neighborhoods safer. “As security improves, the barriers will come down as quickly as they went up, and you will be able to return to a more normal way of life,” he wrote.

Petraeus asked Iraqis to not only reject violence, “but to embrace reconciliation” for the future. He said Iraq’s future does not include extremists, and he called on all Iraqis to live together peacefully.

“The Coalition can help you realize this objective,” he said. “In the end, however, success depends on you.”

General's letter states goal: call to unite

To the Iraqi People:

I write to you as a partner in the ongoing effort to build a secure and stable Iraq. Our shared goal remains unchanged: one Iraq, with a government that is representative of and responsive to all its people, that provides security, that delivers basic services, that upholds the rule of law, and that respects individual rights.

Iraq's government was formed a year ago this month, and it can point to some important accomplishments. All recognize, however, that much work remains to be done, and the government's efforts over the coming months will be critical to whether or not this worthy endeavor succeeds.

I ask you to take an active role in the rebirth of your nation. Choose to reject violence and the sectarianism that fuels it. Choose to support an Iraq in which all citizens can live in harmony and mutual understanding. This is a pivotal time, and inaction may be tantamount to failure.

Hand-in-hand with the Iraqi Security Forces, the members of Multi-National Force- Iraq are working relentlessly to rid Iraqi cities and towns of extremists of all sects, including Al Qaeda-Iraq. We need your help if we are to quell the violence. Deny the enemy shelter, report any information you may have regarding his whereabouts, and be proud of and support your nation's security forces. Beyond that, please understand that any restrictions imposed on your freedom of movement are designed to make your markets, your streets, and your neighborhoods safer. As security improves, the barriers will come down as quickly as they went up, and you will be able to

return to a more normal way of life.

I urge you not only to reject violence, but to embrace reconciliation. Now is the time for all Iraqis to come together and create the consensus needed to unite in pursuit of a common future. This future does not include extremist groups; it does include Arabs, Kurds, Turkomen, and Assyrians, Sunnis, Shia, Christians, and Yezidis- all living together, respectful of tribal, ethnic, and religious differences, and all bound by their belief in a government that serves all Iraqis. The Coalition can help you realize this objective. In the end, however, success depends on you.

I had the opportunity to walk the streets of Baghdad this past weekend. Surrounded by young children, their faces full of cheer despite the challenges, I felt a renewed sense of urgency. The children of Iraq, as well as their parents and grandparents, deserve nothing less than a country free from fear and full of hope. Now, more than ever, is the time for Iraqis to come together and embrace reconciliation over confrontation. It is time to choose peace.

Sincerely,



David H. Petraeus
General, United States Army
Commanding

Security team

A soldier from the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division pulls security next to U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Robert Farnsworth during a morning clearing operation in Baghdad's Adhamiyah District, May 23.



Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Michael Pryor

Investigators sharpen interview techniques

**By U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class
Kimberly A. Green
MNSTC-I Public Affairs**

BAGHDAD, Iraq – In order to solve a crime, many times law enforcement personnel rely heavily on facts. And when the facts are not crystal clear, personnel frequently seek a corroborating witness or victim who is not always an easy find. But once they are found ones effective communication may be the determining factor in making or breaking the case.

Approximately 40 Iraqi Ministry of Defense inspectors and their support staff from the inspector general's office completed a three-day training course titled "Interviewing victims and witnesses" May 25.

"The goal of the training was to help educate them all in understanding how to more effectively deal with the various types of witnesses and victims they encounter on a daily basis," said Investigations Mentor Thomas Cruise, MOD Training Team, MNSTC-I.

The block of instruction is new to MOD and the concept of interviewing is new for many of the Iraqi investigators noted Cruise.

Many of the students said the various topics covered proved to be beneficial for them.

"I didn't think that I could learn so much in three days," said Dr. Rahni, an MOD medical inspector. "I was familiar with some of the information but a lot of it was new. I wish we could have had more time to go into further details."

Students received instruction on qualifications necessary for an investigator, how to prepare for an interview, the many types of witnesses encountered and the many emotional reactions of victims.

"You can't treat every victim and every witness the same. There are certain traits needed to be a successful interviewer," said Cruise. "That's what I want to point out today."

Discussions regarding the many new

resources available were also covered in the course.

"We were able to see some of the advancements in technology when it comes to interviewing and processing the victims," said Rahni.

Cruise said the three-day course also

"I had someone walk into the room and whisper something in my ear. The next day I presented the class with a lineup to see if anyone could recall what they saw the day before."

**Thomas Cruise,
MOD Training Team, MNSTC-I**

included discussions on polygraphs, fingerprinting, obtaining handwritten statements and identifying DNA samples.

"I was most interested in the DNA and the fingerprinting process," said Iraqi Army Brig. Gen. Ali, MOD human rights department manager. "Today we addressed the specialized needs of the victim and we addressed the need for us

to have more hands-on training."

Although the class was lecture based, some role-playing was involved and the students had the tables turned when they unknowingly became an eye witness.

"I had someone walk into the room and whisper something in my ear. The next day I presented the class with a lineup to see if anyone could recall what they saw the day before," Cruise said. "I did it to prove a point - no matter where you are you always have to pay attention to detail and be aware of your surroundings."

The practical exercise proved to be a success as it brought the groups awareness level up.

"I had no idea it was a test. It shows that you too can be a victim or a witness at any time and any place," Iraqi Army Maj. Gen. Mohammed, MOD investigator. "We are in a war zone and we have to be cognizant of what is happening all the time."

As with any training, it can be considered a work in progress. Even though this was the first course it may not be the last according to Cruise. The plan for future courses is currently being discussed.

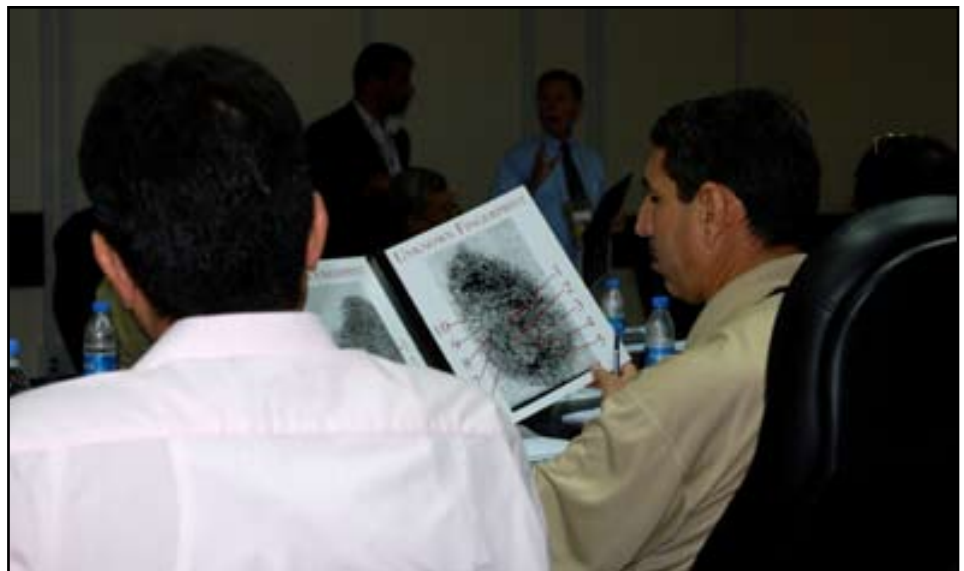


Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Kimberly A. Green

Iraqi Ministry of Defense inspectors and support staff view fingerprint exhibits during a three-day training course titled "Interviewing witnesses and techniques" in Baghdad, Iraq, May 24.

Supplies aid Iraqi border forts police

By U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Christie Putz
MNSTC-I Public Affairs

BAGHDAD, Iraq – Nine tractor-trailer trucks stacked high with supplies to support the Iraqi Department of Border Enforcement were delivered to their Baghdad headquarters May 24. This is in addition to the 78 truckloads delivered over the past four weeks.

The items, which were purchased by Coalition forces, ranged from small end items such as uniforms, dinnerware, kerosene heaters, mattresses and blankets, to large items such as ambulances, front-end loaders, medium trucks and patrol vehicles.

“(This equipment) is important for the person, for the soldier,” said Iraqi Maj. Gen. Mohsen, director general of the directorate of border enforcement.

The supplies were temporarily unloaded into three newly built warehouses at the headquarters until they are distributed to the field units. From the Baghdad office, the supplies go to each of the five regions in Iraq, to the battalion headquarters, to the brigades and then out to the border forts.

This, however, hasn’t always been the process.

“Before this time I didn’t know exactly what equipment was in each vehicle,” said Mohsen. “All of the equipment went directly from the Coalition to the regions.”

Prior to January, the equipment was delivered straight to the battalion level for turn over, bypassing the department’s accountability process.

“Now that we give it to the headquarters, they start the accountability so that it goes through each level of headquarters and everybody signs and thumbprints for the accountability of the equipment,” said U.S. Army Maj. Alan Van Horn, assistant chief advisor to the DBE with MNSTC-I Coalition Police Assistance Training Team.

Each location receives supplies according to a plan compiled by the general and his staff, based on the needs and requests of each unit. Each area’s needs are different, the general said.

A large part of the decision on where to allocate supplies is based on the current situation in the areas, and where emphasis is needed.

“For example, I now put all my interest along the Iranian-Iraqi border -- before it was the Syrian-Iraqi border,” the general said. “So when I need to send equipment I know where the difficult areas are and what the situation is at that time.”

After the equipment is received at the DBE headquarters, representatives from the regions travel to Baghdad to receive the supplies, which they in turn take back to their regional headquarters.

There are two exceptions to this rule. The first takes into account the size of the items, with the larger being delivered to the units; the second takes into account current threats.



Photo by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Christie Putz

Iraqi Security Forces members unload supplies delivered to the Department of Border Enforcement in Baghdad, Iraq, May 24. The supplies will be dispersed to five regions in Iraq and ultimately to those guarding the country’s perimeter at the border forts.

“Region two is difficult because the road that we have to take is very dangerous,” Mohsen said. “The security situation for Salah ad Din is not good and especially for the highway between Baghdad and Tikrit.”

For this reason, a contracted security company is responsible for the safe transport of the goods to region two, which covers areas such as Fallujah, Ramadi and the Al Anbar province.

This recent change in the distribution process to all areas of the country takes the Iraqi border enforcement troops closer to the successful control of their nation’s security.

“I don’t give this job to the United States soldier because they have another job to do,” said Mohsen. “I take responsibility for my jobs.”



The fight continues

BAGHDAD, Iraq —
In support of
Operation Iraqi
Freedom, members
of the Iraqi Special
Operations Forces,
advised by Coalition
forces, conduct a
combat operation
to detain suspected
terrorist leaders of an
insurgent force.

Photos by U.S. Navy MC1 Michael B.W. Watkins





Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. Tierney Nowland

Patrolling through the rain, sun

In a joint effort to find three missing Soldiers, an Iraqi Army soldier from 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division and a Coalition soldier conduct a foot patrol in Rushdi Mulla, Iraq, May 17.

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES / in brief

Iraqi Special Operations Forces kill insurgent commander during afternoon raid in Basrah

BASRAH – Iraqi and Coalition forces killed Wisam Abd Abdul, also known as Wisam Abu Qadir, the suspected commander of the militia group Jaysh al-Madhi, and his bodyguard while attempting to detain him in Basrah May 25.

Iraqi Special Operation Forces and Coalition forces were manning a vehicle checkpoint when a vehicle approached. Despite signals to pull over, the driver failed to do so. The ISOF fired warning rounds to disable the vehicle, but the vehicle sped forward for another 800 meters. Three individuals then exited the vehicle and aimed weapons at ISOF and Coalition forces. The ISOF took appropriate self-defense measures, engaging two of the insurgents and killing them.

The third individual, the driver, ran away. Both during and after the incident, ISOF and Coalition forces came under attack from small-arms fire, rocket-propelled grenades, and IEDs.

Qadir has a long history of violence in the region. He managed operations to murder and intimidate local Iraqis and is credited with ordering attacks on Coalition forces. He also instructed new recruits on terrorist methods as well as the construction and detonation of IEDs.

Additionally, Qadir was allegedly involved in weapons trafficking, theft and procuring rocket-propelled grenades, IEDs, and conventional explosives from terrorists in Iran.

No Iraqi or Coalition forces were injured during this operation.

– *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs*

IA finds weapons caches near Abu Ghraib

BAGHDAD — Two Iraqi Army battalions found several weapons caches near Abu Ghraib, Iraq, May 23.

During a combined cordon and search in Abu Ghraib's Mencia area, troops discovered caches near an apartment complex and in an abandoned house.

The caches yielded six mortar rounds, 10 AK-47 assault rifles, three PKC sniper rifles, six hand grenades, several explosives, six rocket-propelled grenades, three rocket-propelled grenade launchers, 10 IEDs and numerous IED-making materials.

In a subsequent search on the same day, working off tips from a concerned Iraqi citizen, troops also found an AK-47, two PKC sniper rifles and a box of PKC ammunition in a vehicle.

Iraqi Security Forces are investigating to find those responsible for the caches.

– *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs*

Iraqi Army, Coalition forces clear Muqdadiya, find weapons cache, detain 24

TIKRIT – Twenty four suspected insurgents were detained and one cache was discovered in the Molameen and Baloor neighborhoods near Muqdadiya, Iraq, during a joint Iraqi Army and Coalition operation May 22.

The cache included improvised explosive-device making material, multiple propane tanks, timers, command wire, batteries and terrorist propaganda.

– *Multi-National Division – North Public Affairs*

IRAQI SECURITY FORCES / in brief

Iraqi Special Operations Forces liberate Imam

DIYALA – Iraqi Special Operations Forces liberated a religious leader held captive in an insurgent stronghold May 21 in the Iskandariyah town south of Baghdad during a search for missing U.S. Soldiers.

Iraqi Special Operations Forces and Coalition forces found Imam Tariq Hussain Hamdan May 21 at an isolated farmhouse, while searching for the missing soldiers who were kidnapped by insurgents May 12. He had been held captive in an insurgent stronghold in the Iskandariyah area of Baghdad.

During the search, the ISOF detained one suspect. The team also found and destroyed several vehicles containing IED materials, multiple weapons, grenades, RPG rounds, face hoods and parts to make IEDs.

– *Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs*

Security forces discover underground cache

MOSUL – Iraqi Security Forces, supported by Coalition forces, discovered a weapons cache in northern Mosul, located in Nineveh Province, during a planned operation May 21.

Iraqi soldiers and police made the cache discovery, which was concealed under an inoperable toilet.

An explosive ordnance disposal team was called to the site as Iraqi Police secured the cache which contained three improvised hand grenades, 12 rifles with approximately 3,000

rounds of ammunition, more than 80 rocket-propelled grenades, seven RPG launchers, three dozen mortar rounds, 10 pounds of explosives and one suicide bomber's vest.

The EOD team secured the explosives for safe disposal and the rifles, ammunition and mortars were turned over to ISF.

– *Multi-National Division – North Public Affairs*

Iraqi National Police apprehend 3 insurgents

DIYALA – The Iraqi National Police and Coalition forces arrested three wanted insurgents near Jisar, Diyala, during a cordon and search mission May 21.

The captured insurgents were wanted for murder, kidnapping and displacing Shiia families.

– *Multi-National Division – Center Public Affairs*

ISF, Coalition free kidnapped Iraqi soldier

BAGHDAD – Iraqi Security Forces and Coalition forces freed an Iraqi soldier who was held by a militia's kidnapping cell in the Rashid District May 20.

Troops rescued Mosher Ahmmaed Abdualrahman, during a predawn cordon and search operation.

The Iraqi soldier was abducted by a Jashya al-Mahdi kidnap cell May 17 in the Shurta neighborhood.

The soldier was rescued unharmed.

– *Multi-National Division – Baghdad Public Affairs*

Giving back to the community



Photo by U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Bennie Corbett

(Left) An Iraqi National Policeman gives a soccer ball to a child in the Al Furat neighborhood of Baghdad, May 19.

(Below) The students at Al Tora Elementary School in eastern Baghdad stand in line to bring water into the school. Iraqi troops paid a visit to the school to donate school supplies, water, toys and medical support May 14.



Photo by U.S. Army Maj. Sean Ryan